

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:08 p.m. at the Mellon Auditorium.

NOTE: H.R. 1758, approved July 5, was assigned Public Law No. 103-272.

Statement on Signing Transportation Legislation

July 5, 1994

Today I have signed into law H.R. 1758, an act to revise, codify, and enact certain general and permanent laws related to transportation.

Section 31134 directs the Secretary of Transportation to establish the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Regulatory Review Panel. The legislation grants panelists a position within the Federal Government that is endowed with tenure and continuing duties as well as significant authority, including the authority to compel the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a regulatory proceeding and to prescribe final regulations. For this reason, panelists are officers of the United States. Fourteen of the fifteen members of the panel are to be appointed from lists submitted by two committees of the Congress. The Constitution prohibits the Congress from sharing in the power to appoint officers of the United States other than through the Senate's confirmation role. As such, no statute may require an appointment to be made from a list submitted by a Member, committee, or other agent of the Congress. I therefore do not interpret section 31134(c)(2) as binding and direct the Secretary of Transportation to regard any lists submitted pursuant to section 31134(c)(2) as advisory.

I also note that section 42104(c) purports to enact a legislative veto with respect to specific regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor pertaining to air carrier employees. The Supreme Court has ruled definitively that legislative vetoes are unconstitutional. Under the Court's precedents, the legislative veto provision contained in section 42104(c) is severable from H.R. 1758. I therefore instruct the Secretary of Labor to disregard section 42104(c).

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 5, 1994.

Statement on Signing Federal Housing Administration Legislation

July 5, 1994

Home ownership is one of the foundation stones of the American dream. Renewing and expanding this dream is one of my Administration's highest priorities and deepest commitments.

Our economic plan, which did so much to lower interest rates, has helped make homes affordable for more people. As more Americans realize that home ownership is within their reach, many of them turn to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae) for Government assistance. These programs, some of which operate at a profit to the Federal Government, have enabled millions of Americans to enjoy the pride and sense of accomplishment that come with owning your own home.

As new home purchases and refinancings continue at a rapid rate, single-family home purchasers will soon be unable to do business with the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and Ginnie Mae—absent corrective action—because the increased demand for loans has exhausted their loan authority. That is why the Congress, acting responsibly and in a fiscally prudent manner, adopted a supplemental appropriation to replenish these funds. Today I am signing into law H.R. 4568, which provides a supplemental appropriation for HUD and Ginnie Mae so that these agencies can continue their good work in helping low- and middle-income Americans build their piece of the American dream.

Specifically, the Act provides: (1) increased loan commitment authority of \$35 billion for the FHA Mutual Mortgage Insurance program; (2) increased Ginnie Mae loan guarantee commitment authority of \$55 billion; (3) an increase of \$3 billion in loan volume for condominium and other housing insurance programs; and (4) an additional \$18 million in budget authority to subsidize mortgages for the purchase or construction of rental housing. Equally important, this legis-